

GREATER NEW HAVEN

Chamber of Commerce

Bethany Branford Cheshire East Haven Guilford Hamden Milford New Haven North Branford North Haven Orange Wallingford West Haven Woodbridge

Testimony of Anthony Rescigno, President - The Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce

The Energy and Technology Committee

Public Hearing – March 20, 2012

Supporting SB 447- An Act Modernizing the State's Telecommunications Laws

I write to you today on behalf of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce. We represent businesses in the municipalities of Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Guilford, Hamden, Madison, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Wallingford, West Haven, and Woodbridge. We aid the local business community by offering seminars, hosting networking events and by providing our members with advocates that work towards achieving sustainable economic growth for Connecticut. It is for this reason that I support SB 447, An Act Modernizing the State's Telecommunications Laws.

Over the last twenty years, our state has experienced zero percent job growth. This number on its own is frustrating, but coupled with the fact that our annual employment growth rate is expected to be less than one percent over the next five years, it is downright upsetting.

Something must change. President Obama has spoken out in the past regarding the need to address redundant and excessive regulation. I wholeheartedly agree with this sentiment and I believe that Connecticut's telecom laws fall under this category. Therefore, I request that you join me in supporting the Telecom Modernization Act.

Because jobs are critical to reviving our economy, the legislature must do all it can to help employers succeed and grow. The Telecom Modernization Act has myriad benefits for the business community. The act will eliminate tariffs, which adversely affect telecom firms, and will result in them having the ability to hire new employees and invest in improving networks. Additionally, due to other facets of the bill, this will not result in a revenue loss for Connecticut.

It is my sincere hope that you recognize the profound benefits that the Telecom Modernization Act offers to the business community and the general population of Connecticut.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

